

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A data transfer system comprising:
2 a plurality of first bus devices, at least one first bus
3 device being a first bus data supplying device capable of
4 supplying data, at least one first bus device being a first
5 bus data receiving device capable of receiving data and at
6 least one first bus device being a first bus master device
7 capable of requesting and controlling data transfer;
8 a first data bus connected to each of said plurality of
9 first bus devices and capable of transferring data from a
10 first bus data supplying device to a first bus data receiving
11 device under control of a first bus master device;
12 a plurality of second bus devices, at least one second
13 bus device being a second bus data supplying device capable of
14 supplying data, at least one second bus device being a second
15 bus data receiving device capable of receiving data, a
16 plurality of second bus devices each being a second bus master
17 device capable of requesting and controlling data transfer, a
18 predetermined one of said plurality of second bus devices
19 being a dominant second bus master device;
20 a second data bus connected to each of said plurality of
21 second bus devices and capable of transferring data from a
22 second bus data supplying device to a second bus data
23 receiving device under control of a second bus master device;
24 a bus bridge connected to said first data bus and said
25 second data bus, said bus bridge capable of supplying data to
26 said first bus, receiving data from said first bus, supplying
27 data to said second bus, receiving data from said second bus,

28 not capable of controlling data transfer on said first bus and
29 capable of controlling data transfer on said second bus; and
30 a second bus arbiter connected to each of said at least
31 one second bus master device, said second bus and said bus
32 bridge, said second bus arbiter granting control of data
33 transfer on said first bus to one and only one of the set of
34 devices including each second bus master and said bus bridge,
35 said second bus arbiter granting control of data transfer to
36 said dominant second bus master immediately upon request and
37 interrupting any data transfer controlled by another second
38 bus master.

1 2. The data transfer system of claim 1, wherein:
2 said at least one first bus master device consists of a
3 central processing unit.

1 3. The data transfer system of claim 1, wherein:
2 said at least one first bus master device consists of a
3 direct memory access unit.

1 4. The data transfer system of claim 1, wherein:
2 at least one first bus supplying/receiving device
3 consists of a memory which is not capable of controlling data
4 transfer.

1 5. The data transfer system of claim 1, wherein:
2 each second bus master generates a corresponding bus
3 request signal to said second bus arbiter for second bus to
4 request control of said second bus, said second bus arbiter
5 having grant logic corresponding to each second bus master

6 supplying a bus grant signal to said corresponding bus master
7 upon bus grant, said bus request signal of said dominant bus
8 master supplied to said grant logic corresponding to every
9 other second bus masters for inhibiting generation of said
10 grant request

1 6. The data transfer system of claim 5, wherein:
2 said bus arbiter grants control of said second bus to
3 second bus master devices other than dominant bus master in a
4 round robin fashion.

1 7. The data transfer system of claim 1, wherein:
2 at least one first bus supplying/receiving device
3 consists of a central processing unit which is further capable
4 of controlling data transfer; and
5 said at least one second bus master device is responsive
6 to real time events asynchronous to operation of said central
7 processing unit.

08932710.004704